

Amendments to the Specification

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

Please replace paragraphs [0053]-[0054] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0052.1] Next, an explanation will be given as to the operation of the above-described embodiment.

[0053] In casting, as shown in Figure 1, the lower crankcase 6 is turned upside down and the preform member 50 is positioned in a space 62 in the lower mold part 64-1. The upper surface 50U of the preform member 50 is aligned with a plane at a certain distance from the bottom of the ~~space 62~~ lower mold part 64-1. The bottom 50B of the preform member 50 is aligned with a plane at a certain distance from a bottom of the upper mold part 64-2. A side 50C of the preform member 50 is aligned with a plane defined by a surface 66 of the lower mold part 64-1 at a certain distance ~~from the side of the~~ across the space 62. A reentrant or recess 68 that corresponds to the shape of the protruding portion 38 is formed in the upper mold part 64-2 at a portion aligned with the hole 58.

[0054] In casting the lower crankcase 6, the molten metal is poured through a left inlet 70 at an upper part of the lower mold part 64-1. The molten metal passes into and through the lower mold part 64-1 and around the preform member 50 and to a right outlet 72 at the upper part of the lower mold part 64-1.

Please delete Paragraphs [0055]-[0057].